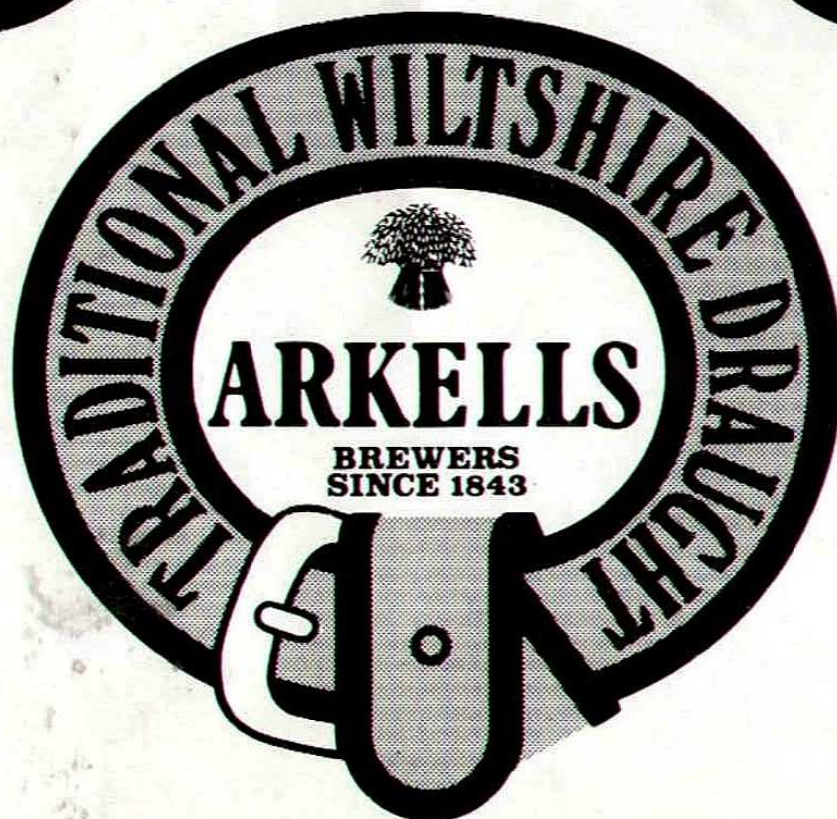


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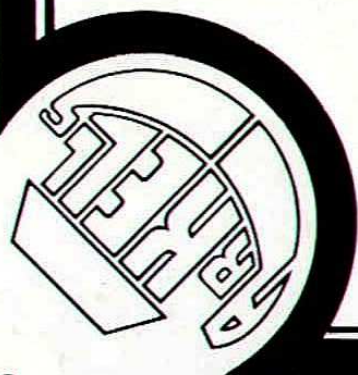
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Bob Smith says.....

Firstly may I take this opportunity to welcome you all to the County Ground on this the opening game of the 1979/80 season. We are very optimistic that this season will be another successful one on the playing field and with all of our disappointments of last season behind us we look forward to this new season. As you will now be aware, Steve Aizlewood and John McLaughlin have left us and may be on the field tonight in the Portsmouth side and in their place I have signed two very experienced professionals in Billy Tucker and John Templeman who have both settled down very well indeed and I am sure that you will appreciate their efforts when you see them in the side.

We seem to be everyones favourite at the moment to win promotion and we ourselves are very confident but success is only gained by hard work and the necessary character in the players that must last over the full season. Our intention is to be a very consistent and attractive side allied with the character that the players must possess. Again I call upon you to support the team as much as possible both vocally and in numbers as this plays a great part in any success the team will achieve.

It would be remiss of me not to acknowledge those businesses who have expressed their willingness to help this Town's football club in a material way and their support is very greatly appreciated. Firstly a big thank you to Isis who have agreed to sponsor the players shirts. Secondly our appreciation to Orchard Garages who for the second year running are supplying a mini coach to the club, free of charge, for transporting our youth teams to away games. Then thanks to the Swindon Building Society for again sponsoring the ball boys' track suits and this year we have changed the colour in order not to clash so often with the colours of visiting



teams. Then we are grateful to the management of the Affair who hold Discos, the proceeds of which go to Club funds. And last but by no means least our thanks to all the local businessmen who advertise at the County either on the ground, in the programme or other publications. All of this financial support makes it that more easy for the club to make progress and if anyone else would care to help in the way of advertising or sponsorship we shall be pleased to talk to them.

In conclusion, thanks again for coming and please give the team every encouragement throughout the full term of the match in the hope that we shall go forward into the next round of the competition.

TOWN THROUGH TIME —

the goal keeper

by Paul Plowman

PART ONE

What do you remember most about a goal-keeper? The near inch-perfect positional sense of Peter Downsborough? The agility and cat-like reflexes of little Tony Hicks, at just 5' 9"? Perhaps it is a particular save that is recalled. Swindon Town has been fortunate in possessing some exceedingly good number ones through the years. They come - and the greater proportion of them stay. Just as Chesterfield has a reputation for 'exporting' keepers, Swindon has one for holding on to them. Even if you have followed the Town for the last fifteen years, you will not have seen more than eight occupants of that green jersey.

Today, the art of goalkeeping is a specialist skill. The keeper now commands a fee in the transfer market comparable to that of a goalscorer. But the occupation of goal-minder in years gone by was quite a different story.

He received much less protection than his present-day counterpart, being vulnerable to the charge of on-coming forwards. The outcome of such collisions caused many injuries and even loss of life or limb.

In September 1931, Celtic goalkeeper John Thomson fractured his skull in the local derby with Rangers and died from his injuries. James Thorpe, a Sunderland keeper, died soon after a game with Chelsea in February 1936. After colliding with the goalkeeper in a match at Preston, early in 1953, the sensational goal-scoring centre-forward with Sheffield Wednesday, Derek Dooley, lost a leg. Within the space of two months during that same season, ten goalkeepers had suffered broken wrists and legs and dislocated elbows.

Until the 1930's, a keeper did not have to stand on his line at a penalty. He could race out from his goal to cut down the angle or swing his arms and legs about to try to intimidate the penalty-taker! To go back even further, the goalkeeper could handle the ball anywhere in his own half of the field! So where does one start in time?

Before the dawning of professionalism, which came to Swindon in the mid-1890's, the Town, when short of playing staff, sought reinforcements from any one of half-a-dozen local sides. Outfield players were even used in the position

of goal, Frank Crossley being one of the earliest examples of this practice. His association with Swindon stretched right back to before the Town club was even formed. Another was Jimmy Calderwood, who made his Town debut at centre-forward — then spent the rest of his career in goal! But, having settled down to football on a regular league basis, the turn-over of players dropped dramatically and signings were made from much further afield than was done previously — many players coming down from north of the border.

To be continued



It was saves like this from Peter Downsborough which helped to bring the League Cup back to Swindon



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TALK OF THE TOWN by the Chairman

May 1, on behalf of our club, welcome you all this evening to our first competitive home match. I know that every supporter of our team will be looking for the excitement that our games produced last season and I am certain that Bob Smith and his staff will do their best to ensure this.

The close season brought its usual shocks and surprises. This summer holiday period when football seems to the average person to be forgotten, is far from being inactive behind the scenes, managers are busy negotiating new contracts for their players, arranging pre-season matches, supervising ground reseeding etc., and of course trying to get a holiday themselves, but this past close season has made history, because it is the first time that 'Freedom of Contract' has had any real effect on managers team building. Through this new system we have lost Steve Aizlewood and John McLaughlin to Portsmouth and I am sure that all sportsmen will wish them well, with their new club, as we welcome John Templeman and Bill Tucker into our fold. We need promotion badly to enable us to keep our ambitious players and we need your support to enable us to help achieve this target.

Our close season training has been a hard programme for the lads in the very warm atmosphere that has prevailed through most of the time and Bob Smith completed this training with three matches played in Scotland, against Forfar, Morton and Clyde and as last year very successfully.

John Trollope has been very busy during the summer organising his pre-season games for his young players and has signed David Cock from Pylle Nr. Shepton Mallett, Martin Blackler a local boy and Liam Twigger from Cuncraig Western Australia, all as apprentices. John has also backed this up with several signings on schoolboy forms of youngsters that are showing exceptional talent in the games played.

This season John has a side playing in the South East Counties League for Under Seventeen years of age boys and this team will play their matches on Saturday mornings. The Midland Youth Team play their matches in mid-week and this age group is for the under nineteen lads. John will also have under his jurisdiction the progress of a young team playing at St. Josephs in the Borough League, Under Seventeen years group. The Borough League progress will be under the watchful eye of Terry Wollen and this combination of team work with John goes back to the years in the 1960's when we ran a side in the Borough League under the managership of Bert

Head. Mr. Arthur Done our director, was chairman of the Borough League in those days and holds the same position today and we all hope that our connection with the Borough League will be as successful this year as it was in those days, when Ernie Hunt and Mike Summerbee was playing partners along with John Trollope and Terry Wollen.

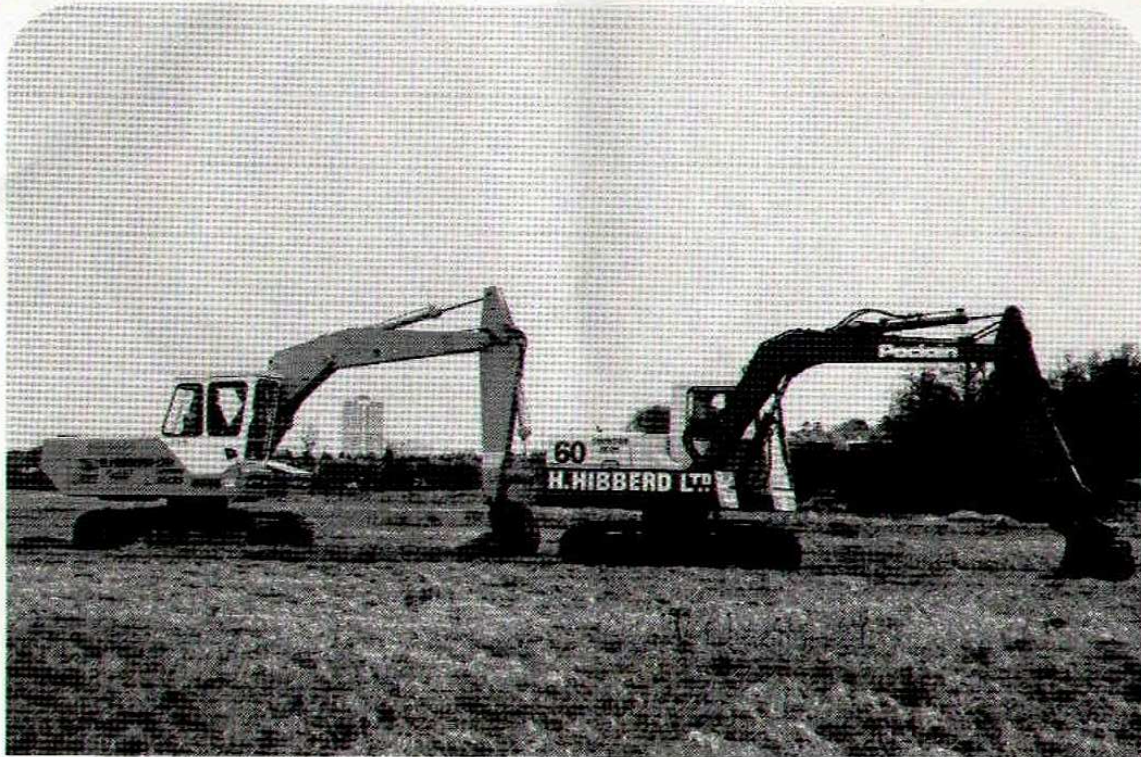
This year, we are hoping that our interests in the local leagues, will encourage the tremendous efforts of the people that give up their spare time to encourage boys to play football.

During the close season we have updated our heating system right through the premises and this winter the Supporters Club should find the benefit because these premises have had to rely on single heaters in the past. Since building the new stand, we have of course added the clubs and found to our cost that the original hot water system was inadequate to supply our extra needs.

Our floodlight pylons have also had a 'face lift', to protect the metal from rust and with our playing surface looking like Wembley we are all ready to start the new season and I hope that you all enjoy your visits to the County Ground and thank you for your support.



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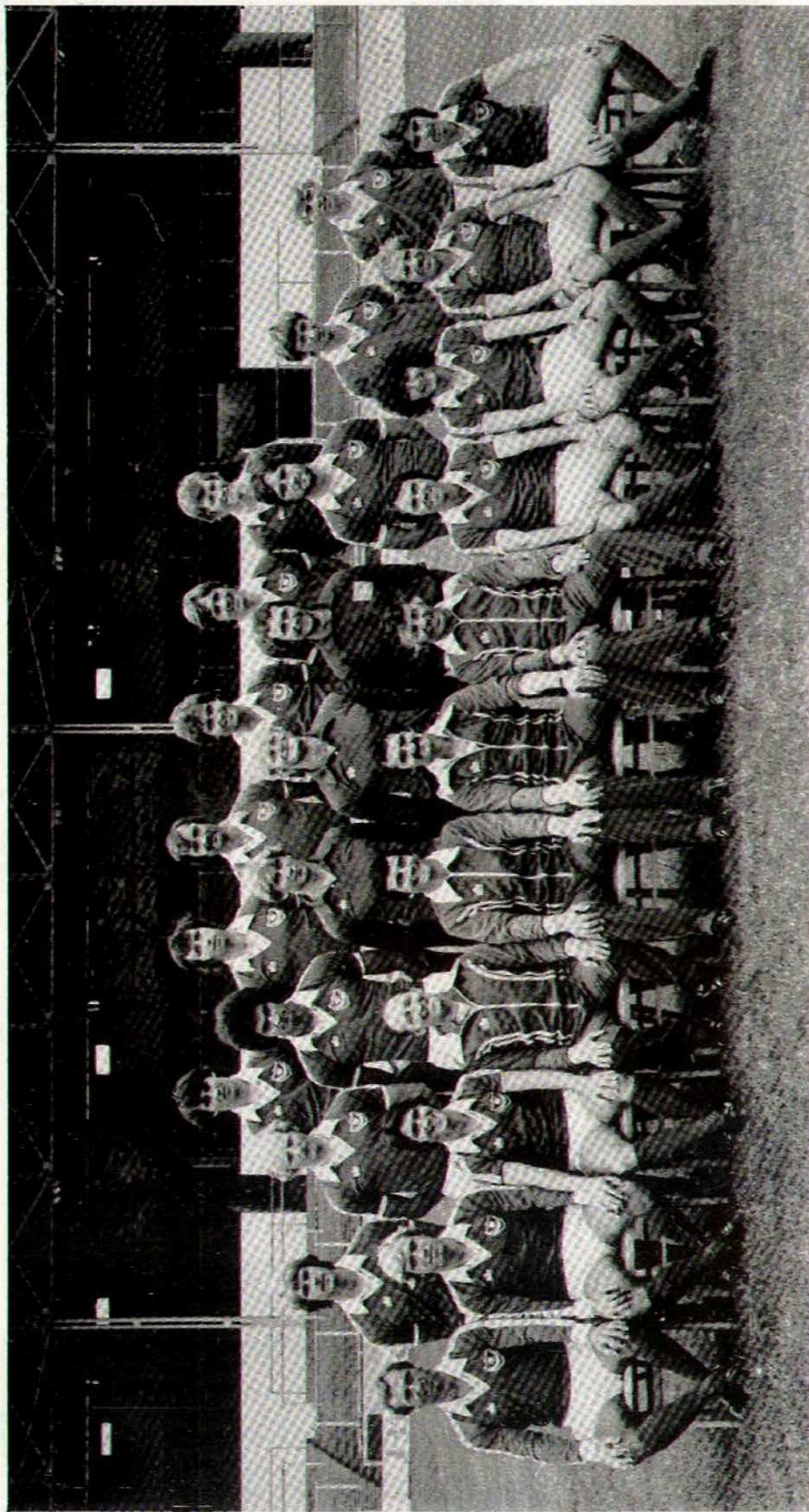
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Back Row (Left to Right)

Keith James, Colin Garwood, Archie Styles, Steve Bryant, Terry Brisley, Peter Tindal.

Middle Row (Left to Right)

Peter Ellis, Derreck Showers, Trevor Roberts, Alan Knight, Peter Mellor, Steve Osgood, Steve Aizlewood, Alan Rogers, Graham Marriner

Front Row (Left to Right)

Steve Davey, Leigh Barnard, John Lathan, Gordon Neave (Coach), Stan Harland (Chief Scout), Frank Burrows (Manager), Jack Smith (Youth Team Manager), John McLaughlin, Jeff Hemmerman, Joe Laidlaw, Keith Viney.

PROMOTION MORE IMPORTANT FOR POMPEY by Tony Pullein

Portsmouth come to the County Ground tonight seeking advancement in the League Cup, though this competition is certainly not their major interest this season. They open their second season as a Fourth Division club next Saturday and their major concern is that it should be their last in soccer's basement.

New manager Frank Burrows, who took over when Jimmy Dickinson resigned through ill-health towards the end of last season, has been exceedingly active in the transfer market during the summer.

He sold defender Steve Foster to Brighton for £130,000 and then used the money to sign six new players — two of them from Swindon.

The fees for Steve Aizlewood and John McLaughlin were both fixed by an independent tribunal after the clubs had failed to agree prices. Pompey's other signings were forward Alan Rogers, from Plymouth for £25,000, midfield men Joe Laidlaw, from Doncaster, and Terry Brisley, from Charlton, plus defender Archie Styles from Peterborough.

Aizlewood, who came to Swindon from Newport in 1976, and McLaughlin, signed from Colchester in 1974, both gave Swindon fine service over several years and we wish them well in their new colours.

Rogers had spent his entire career at Plymouth, making his League debut in 1973/74. Laidlaw made his bow with Middlesbrough in 1967/68 and was transferred to Carlisle in 1972. He twice led the Cumbrians' scoring list before moving onto Doncaster in 1976.

Brisley had served London clubs Orient, Millwall and Charlton before his recent £25,000 move. Styles began at Everton and was valued at £90,000 when joining Birmingham as part of the deal that took Bob Latchford to Goodison Park in 1974. He left the Blues for Peterborough last season.

We can assume that Peter Meller will continue in goal for Pompey. He played at Wembley for Fulham in the 1975 F.A. Cup final. Peter had earlier played for Burnley and left Fulham for Hereford in 1977. He joined Portsmouth last season.

In addition to the three new signings, Pompey have Peter Ellis, Keith James, Keith Viney — all of whom developed in the club's youth team and Steve Bryant challenging for defensive positions. Bryant began with Birmingham, moved to Northampton in 1976 and was transferred to Portsmouth for £25,000 last season.

Leigh Barnard, another local discovery, and John Latham will probably be seen in midfield. Latham, whose previous clubs include Sunderland, Mansfield, Carlisle and Barnsley, where he was on loan, signed for Pompey two seasons ago.

Steve Davey, Jeff Hemmerman, Colin Garwood and Derek Showers are the men liable to get the goals. Davey was once a top scorer for Plymouth. He moved onto Hereford in 1975 and to Portsmouth last season.

Hemmerman was shattered when given free transfers by Hull in 1977 and Port Vale in 1978 but he came good last season when he led Portsmouth's scoring list with 16 goals.

Garwood became a prolific scorer with Peterborough, then moved on to Oldham in 1971. Huddersfield signed him in 1975 but sold him to Colchester a year later. He eventually docked at Portsmouth in 1978 and hit 15 goals last season.

Showers won two Welsh caps while with Cardiff. Bournemouth signed him in 1977 and he made the short journey along the coast to sign for Portsmouth last season.

Next Match

Tuesday, 21st August, 1979

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Billy Tucker



JOHN TEMPLEMAN

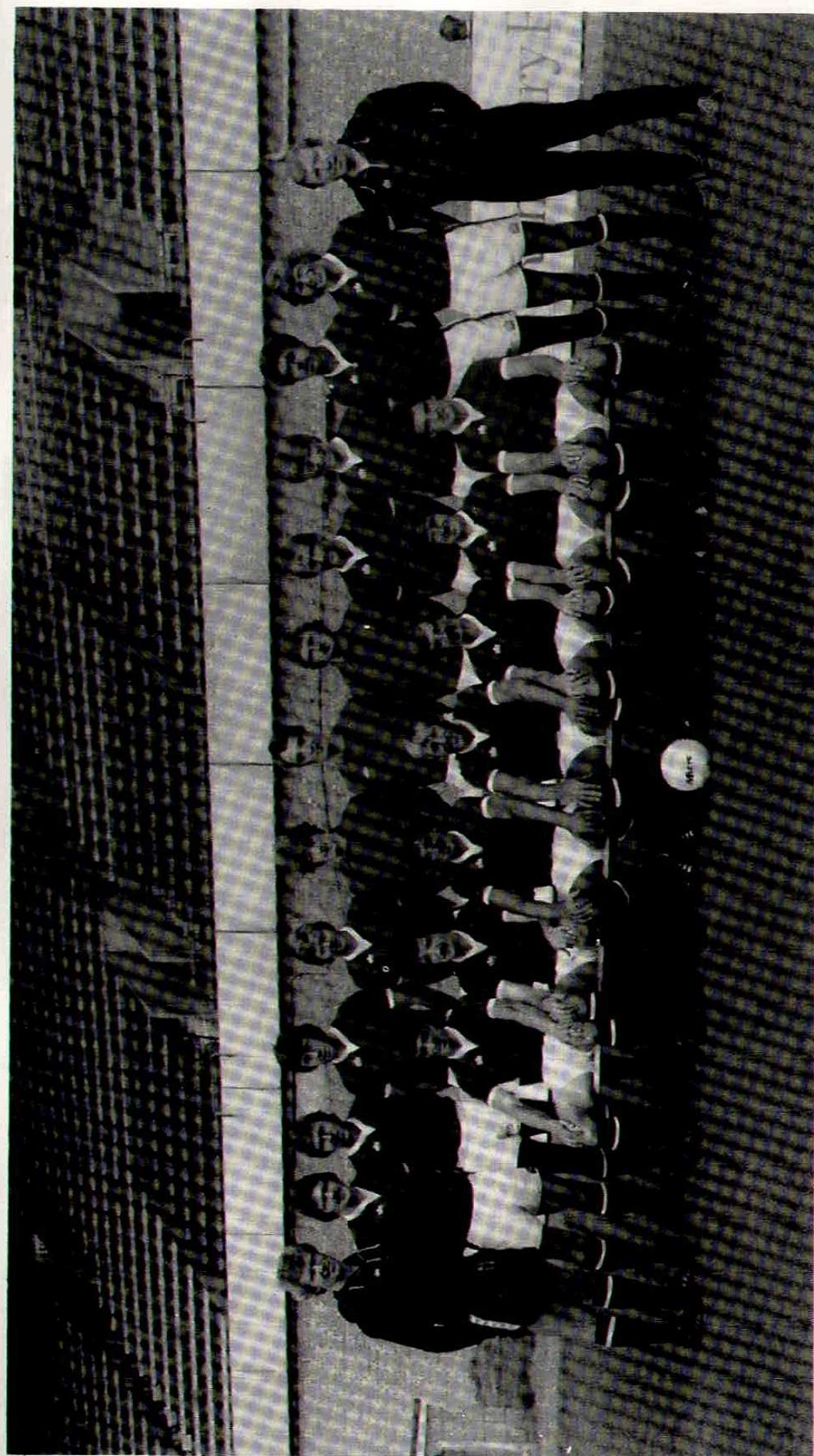
John Templeman

REPORT ON

FORFAR ATHLETIC 0 SWINDON TOWN 1 (July 30)

Swindon commenced this seasons pre-season tour where they left off when last north of the border - with a 1-0 victory. The goal which separated the sides at Station Park did not come until the 87th minute and was provided by home centre-half Alex Brash. Before that late decider Chic Bates, wearing the number nine shirt, came closest to scoring. He actually got the ball in the net on the half hour from a free-kick, but the referee ruled the goal out because he was not ready for play to recommence. Bates almost squeezed the ball in again twelve minutes from time when he skipped past keeper Dave McWilliams, only to be foiled by a last-ditch tackle by a defender - who somehow forced the ball away from the striker's reach.

The part-timers of Forfar rarely tested Town keeper Chris Ogden early on, but on the hour only his perfect positioning on the six-yard line prevented Ian McPhee from breaking through for Athletic. Then, for a ten minute spell Ogden was called upon to act swiftly on a number of occasions. But the Town defence held firm, with Russell Lewis performing well in place of the injured Bill Tucker. Chris Kamara commanded the middle of the park and made a vital contribution to that late clincher. Receiving the ball from Paul Gilchrist, he funnelled it out to Ian Miller wide on the right. The winger, darting forward, threaded the ball in the direction of the on-coming Town strikers, but a desperate lunge by Brash forced the ball past the helpless McWilliams. In the end the rain descended to finally dampen the efforts, if not the spirit, of the gallant Forfar side.



Back:

Wulf Tranter	Brian Williams	Kenny Stroud	Russell Lewis	John Templeman	Jimmy Allan	Kevin Roberts	Chris Ogden	Andy Ford	Billy Tucker	Chris Kamara	Roy Carter	Bob Smith
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Front:

Brian Hamilton	Paul Gilchrist	'Chic' Bates	Ray McHale	Ian Miller	Alan Mayes	Andy Rowland
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LEAGUE CUP ROUND-UP

Of the twenty-eight First Round ties, only four are all-Third Division classes. Relegated Blackburn Rovers take on Bury, Brentford entertain Scuthend United, last year's Fourth Division champions Reading tackle our other local rivals Oxford United and Hull play hosts to Sheffield Wednesday. The Hillsborough side have been drawn against Doncaster Rovers for the last two seasons, but this time leave it to their neighbours from across the city — Sheffield United.

Plymouth Argyle, who have this year managed to escape the clutches of Exeter and Torquay, tonight meet the ever-improving Newport County. Carlisle, Colchester and Rotherham all come up against Second Division opposition in Wrexham, Watford and Leicester City — while Gillingham, who have fallen at the first hurdle against Fourth Division sides in both the last two seasons, also face a Second Division club — Luton Town. One of those sides to defeat the Gills, newly-promoted Wimbledon, have a tough task against one of the clubs which just missed out on a Third Division place — Aldershot. New striker Mickey French is another ex-Swindon man to arrive at the Recreation Ground.

Exeter City, who last year reached the Fourth Round for the first time ever, meet Hereford United. It will be a chance for City to gain revenge for the 1-0 Second Round defeat inflicted by Hereford on the last occasion that the two clubs met in the League Cup in September 1974.

The Third Division club with, what looks on paper, the easiest task at this stage is Blackpool — drawn against Rochdale. The 'Dale' have a quite unremarkable record in the competition since reaching the Final back in 1962. Chesterfield should also have taken the initiative in the home leg against Hartlepool on Saturday. Hartlepool's

one moment of League Cup glory came in 1974-75 when it took them seven games to reach the Fourth Round. Having got that far, they crashed 1-6 at Villa Park in a replay.

Tonight's game at the County Ground is the Town's eighth in the League Cup against Portsmouth since September 1966. Pompey's best performance in this competition was back in the very first season of operation - 1960-61, when Coventry City, Manchester City and Chelsea were all defeated. Portsmouth lost in the Fifth Round to the ultimate finalists Rotherham United.



'Shots' new striker Mickey French who will be hoping to 'shoot down' Wimbledon

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REPORT ON MORTON 0 SWINDON 1 (JULY 31)

Swindon fought hard throughout the ninety minutes of Cappielow and in the end deservedly came away 1-0 winners. Morton provided a much stern test than Forfar had done twenty-four hours earlier, the Premier Division side already having had a 2-1 victory over Watford under their belts. But the Greenock side was given a jolt as early as the fifteenth minute, when Swindon took the lead with a picture-book goal. Ian Miller, taking a chest-high pass wide on the right, rounded the full-back and centred perfectly for ANDY ROWLAND to lean back and volley home. After 32 minutes Swindon survived a heavy siege, when at least three goal-bound efforts were blocked and Jimmy Allan was called upon to make timely interceptions. The Town keeper was beaten, however, two minutes after the interval when the dangerous Andy Ritchie netted from fifteen yards. Fortunately for the Town, home striker Russell was ruled offside. On the hour, the Swindon keeper was put under pressure again when Chris Kamara was caught in possession on the edge of the area. But John McNeill, with only Allan to beat, blasted the ball high and wide from six yards. In the closing minutes Morton, with three substitutes on the field, kept the Town defence under constant pressure - only allowing the visitors the isolated breakaway. An acrobatic save from Jimmy Allan just two minutes from time finally put the seal on Greenock hopes and Swindon gained a well deserved victory.

SWINDON TOWN: Allan; Templeman, Ford; McHale, Lewis, Stroud; Miller (Williams 73 mins), Carter, Rowland, Mayes (Bates 67), Kamara.

CLYDE 2 SWINDON TOWN 2 (Aug. 3)

The Town closed their Scottish tour with this draw at Shawfield. After taking a two-goal lead, Swindon were pegged back when the home side levelled the scores during a hectic four-minute spell in the second-half. Clyde survived going a goal down as early as the nineteenth minute when, after some good approach work by Bryan Hamilton, Paul Gilchrist saw his shot rebound off a post. Then Hamilton himself went close whilst in yet another Town raid Ray McHale stooped to head a Roy Carter right-wing cross fractionally wide. A Swindon goal was not long delayed and came seconds before the break. After a foul on Roy Carter, a square pass from Brian Williams was met on the edge of the area by RAY McHALE. He unleashed a low hard shot to the right of the home keeper, who got his hand to the ball, but could not prevent it from crossing the line. Swindon made one change at the interval, Jimmy Allan replacing Chris Ogden - and almost immediately there was a difference of opinion between the new keeper and Andy Ford when the Town's number three put Allan under unnecessary pressure. In the 53rd minute, however, Swindon went further ahead when a lofted cross from Roy Carter on the right found BRIAN WILLIAMS in space. His header from six yards out beat the wrong-footed goalkeeper and crept in by the far post. But less than a minute later Clyde pulled back a goal when, after Ray McHale had lost possession, McKAY gave Jimmy Allan no chance from eight yards. An uncharacteristic error by Kenny Stroud put the home side level in the 58th minute. The Town defender nodded the ball past Jimmy Allan, who had left his line and substitute MARSHALL had the simple task of tapping the ball into an unguarded net. In the final six minutes Swindon had two clear-cut chances to go in front again. Brian Williams was brought down when in full flight and tapped the resultant free-kick to Ray McHale whose twenty-yard shot was easily taken by the goalkeeper. Just three minutes from the end a long throw from Roy Carter on the right was headed on by Paul Gilchrist at the near post to Alan Mayes, whose gentle nod was inches off target.

SWINDON TOWN: Ogden (Allan 46 Mins.); Templeman, Ford; McHale, Tucker, Stroud; Hamilton (Miller 70 mins), Carter, Rowland (Mayes 69 mins), Gilchrist, Williams.

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THE CUP AS SEEN by Tony Pullein

The League Cup is the competition that gives smaller clubs a real chance of glory. Three Third Division sides have appeared at Wembley in the final, two of them winning the trophy, and even last season there was a Third Division side in the semi-final. And, during the early years, a Fourth Division side made it all the way to the final!

We are one of two Third Division clubs to win the trophy, of course. Queen's Park Rangers created history by winning the League Cup at Wembley in 1967, becoming the first Third Division side ever to appear in a major final. Two years later we upset all the odds by beating Arsenal.

And Aston Villa were in the Third Division when they got to Wembley in 1971. But they were beaten by Spurs.

After that the competition began to grow in stature as bigger clubs took it more seriously. With a place in the UEFA Cup for the winners, it was a prize worth going for and it seemed that, like the F.A. Cup, the smaller clubs had been put firmly in their place.

But Watford proved last season that this was not the case. The Hornets ousted Second Division Newcastle United and then proceeded to knock out Manchester United at Old Trafford. Stoke City was another major side to fall to Watford who were more than a little unlucky to lose the first leg of their semi-final tie 1-2 at Nottingham Forest.

Forest held out for a 0-0 draw in the return game and went on to Wembley where they became the first club ever to lift the League Cup two seasons in succession.

Last season's leading scorer in the League Cup was a Third Division man — Watford's Luther Blissett, with seven goals.

It's only four years since a Fourth Division side, Chester, progressed to the semi-finals. The Sealand Road club distinguished itself by crushing Leeds United 3-0 in the fourth round and then eliminated First Division Newcastle United. They had a real chance of making it to Wembley when they held Aston Villa to 2-2 in the first-leg of the semi-final but in the end they were narrowly beaten by 2-3.

A year earlier it was Plymouth Argyle, a lowly Third Division side, who scored away victories over three First Division sides — Burnley, Q.P.R.

and Birmingham — to take their place among the last four. Argyle held Manchester City to 1-1 at Home Park but went down 0-2 at Maine Road.

It was back in the early days of the competition, before the final was taken to Wembley, that Fourth Division Rochdale appeared in the final. They met Norwich City in a home-and-away tie but lost 0-4 on aggregate.

Two important changes have been made in the League Cup this season. For the first time the second round — in addition to the first — will be played on a two-legged basis. This will be of tremendous financial benefit to the smaller clubs who get through for any tie against one of the major clubs will bring in two big crowds instead of the one.

For the first time, this season's League Cup final will be televised live. Clubs with League fixtures on the same day were invited to re-arrange them for the Friday evening.

This season's first round draw produced many interesting clashes and provided several challenges. Aldershot, for instance, haven't won a League Cup tie for eight years — and they've never survived beyond the second round — so they were taking their tie with Wimbledon very seriously.

The Wimbledon tie offers a special incentive to the Shots' top scorer John Dungworth. Though he was the Fourth Division's Leading scorer with 34 goals last season, and has hit 57 goals in 104 games for Aldershot, Dungworth has never managed to score a goal in a League Cup tie for any of his five clubs to date!

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11. B. WILLIAMS
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Started refereeing in 1963 and progressed via the Mid-Herts., West Herts. and Herts. County Leagues on to the Isthmian Football League list. Refereed the Hertfordshire Senior Cup Final in 1972, and lined the England v Wales Amateur International in 1970 a Football League Cup Semi-Final (1974) and a U.E.F.A. Cup match in Sweden (1975). Was reserve official for the England v Wales World Cup Qualifier at Wembley in 1973.

A married man, with three children, he is a Road Safety Officer in local government and is interested in junior football.

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